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Title: Need to provide infrastructure facilities in Kumbakonam city for the forthcoming Mahamaham festival in Tamil Nadu.

*SHRI R.K.BHARATHI MOHAN (MAYILADUTHURAI) : Hon. Speaker Vanakkam. I wish to raise an important issue pertaining to my Mayiladuthurai constituency. 'Kumbh Mela' is celebrated in North India once in twelve years. In the same way 'Maha Maham' is a festival that is celebrated in Kumbakonam of Mayiladuthurai parliamentary constituency once in 12 years. Pilgrims and people in large numbers from all over the country assemble here in this Kumbakonam tank during this mega event for a holy dip.

During the 'Maha Maham' in 2004, Hon. Chief Minister *Puratchithalaivi* Amma had provided basic amenities and ensured security of the pilgrims. '2004-Maha Maham' was a grand success and people still have pleasant memories of that grand event. This 'Maha Maham' will next be held during February, 2016. I seek the cooperation of Union Government for successfully organizing this mega event. There are three holy wells in India-Kasi in the north; Maha Maham of Kumbakonam in the middle; and Rameswaram in the south. I therefore urge that more train services should be operated towards Kumbakonam. Yatri Nivas should be constructed by the Union Government in Kumbakonam. I also urge that Kumbakonam should be declared as a 'heritage city' keeping in view the importance of its cultural connection and presence of various mutts, temples and Vedic schools.